

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD,

Complainant,

vs.

DERMIS HERNANDEZ,

Respondent.

Docket Number 2026-0140
Enforcement Activity No. 8319630

ADMISSION ORDER

Issued: April 24, 2026

By Administrative Law Judge: Honorable Timothy G. Stueve

Appearances:

**Jesus Porrata
Sector Miami**

For the Coast Guard

Dermis Hernandez, *Pro Se*

For Respondent

On or about April 23, 2026, the United States Coast Guard (USCG or Coast Guard), filed a Complaint against Dermis Hernandez (Respondent) alleging Respondent violated a law or regulation while acting under the authority of Respondent's Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) as Crew Member aboard the vessel CGC RICHARD ETHERIDGE.

The Coast Guard alleges:

1. The AZURE (O.N. 1151606) is a documented recreational vessel of less than 100 gross tons.
2. On February 26, 2026, the AZURE (O.N. 1151606) was subject to an underway boarding by the CGC RICHARD ETHERIDGE and deemed to being operated as an uninspected passenger vessel subject to the requirements of 46 CFR Subchapter C, as described by 46 U.S.C. § 41.
3. On February 26, 2026, Respondent operated AZURE while underway 10nm from Miami Beach, FL, a navigable waterway of the United States, with six passengers for hire, in violation of 46 CFR § 25.25-5(b)(2) by not having sufficient Type I personal floating devices for all persons onboard.
4. Violation of 46 CFR § 25.25-5(b)(2) is a violation of a regulation as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(A) and defined by 46 CFR § 5.33.5.

In Respondent's Answer, dated April 23, 2026, Respondent admits to all jurisdictional and factual allegations, as stated in the Complaint. Respondent also agreed to the proposed order of one (1) month outright suspension, with no additional conditions stipulated.

Upon consideration of the record, I hereby find that the allegations in the Complaint are **PROVED BY ANSWER**. I find that on February 26, 2026, Respondent violated 46 CFR § 25.25-5(b)(2), which is a violation of a regulation as described by 46 U.S.C. § 7703(1)(A) and defined by 46 C.F.R. § 5.33.5.

SANCTION

I have carefully reviewed the Complaint and Answer and find that the proposed sanction is appropriate under the provisions of 46 C.F.R. § 5.569.

WHEREFORE,

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, Respondent's Coast Guard issued MMC is **SUSPENDED OUTRIGHT FOR ONE (1) MONTH**, commencing the date it was deposited with the Coast Guard.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, service of this decision on the parties and/or parties' representative(s) serves as notice of appeal rights set forth in 33 C.F.R. §§ 20.1001 – 20.1004. (Attachment A).

Done and dated April 24, 2026, at
Alameda, California



Hon. Timothy G. Stueve
Administrative Law Judge
U.S. Coast Guard